GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:648
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
DEMAND OF NATURAL GAS IN WEST BENGAL
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that working group set up by the Government of West Bengal has projected the demand of Natural Gas in West Bengal approximately as 275 mmscfd (million cubic feet/day) in 2005-06;

(b) if so, whether Indian Market Research Bureau (IMRB) engaged by a consortium of three Central Oil PSUs (IOC, ONGC,GAIL), ha also projected huge demand of natural gas in West Begal in 2005-06

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of West Bengal for setting up an absorption plan in the State for meeting the demand of Natural Gas in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)& (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. However, supply of natural gas to West Bengal mainly depends on import of natural gas from Bangladesh. For this purpose, a consortium of three Oil Public Sector Undertakings, namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Gas Authority of India Limited and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited has been formed to participate in any venture for import of natural gas from Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh have yet to convey their decision to export natural gas to India.